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**CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 8( )**

**IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA**

**TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION**

**BY**

**Offered:  
Referred:**

**Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES HUGHES, Gruenberg**

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

**"An Act relating to powers of attorney and other substitute decision-making documents;  
relating to the uniform probate code; and providing for an effective date."**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

**\* Section 1.** AS 13.06.050(1) is repealed and reenacted to read:

(1) "agent" means a person granted authority to act for a principal under a power of attorney or to whom an agent's authority is delegated, whether denominated an agent, attorney-in-fact, original agent, coagent, successor agent, or otherwise;

**\* Sec. 2.** AS 13.06.050(46) is amended to read:

(46) "state" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or a territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States;

**\* Sec. 3.** AS 13.06.050 is amended by adding new paragraphs to read:

(57) "durable," with respect to a power of attorney, means not

terminated by the principal's incapacity; in this paragraph, "incapacity" has the meaning given in AS 13.26.359;

(58) "electronic" means relating to technology having electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic, or similar capabilities;

(59) "power of attorney" means a writing or other record that grants authority to an agent to act in the place of the principal, whether or not the term "power of attorney" is used;

(60) "principal" means an individual who grants authority to an agent in a power of attorney;

(61) "record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form;

(62) "sign" means, with present intent to authenticate or adopt a record,

(A) to execute or adopt a tangible symbol; or

(B) to attach to or logically associate with the record an electronic sound, symbol, or process.

\* **Sec. 4.** AS 13.26 is amended by adding new sections to article 5 to read:

**Sec. 13.26.326. Agent's acceptance and liability.** (a) Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney, a person accepts appointment as an agent under a power of attorney by exercising authority or performing duties as an agent or by any other assertion or conduct indicating acceptance.

(b) An agent that violates a provision in AS 13.26.326 - 13.26.359 is liable to the principal or the principal's successors in interest for the amount required to

(1) restore the value of the principal's property to what it would have been had the violation not occurred; and

(2) reimburse the principal or the principal's successors in interest for the attorney fees and costs paid on the agent's behalf.

**Sec. 13.26.327. Agent's duties.** (a) Notwithstanding provisions in the power of attorney, an agent that has accepted appointment shall

(1) act in accordance with the principal's reasonable expectations to the extent actually known by the agent and, otherwise, in the principal's best interest;

1 (2) act in good faith; and

2 (3) act only within the scope of authority granted in the power of  
3 attorney.

4 (b) Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney, an agent that has  
5 accepted appointment shall

6 (1) act loyally for the principal's benefit;

7 (2) act so as not to create a conflict of interest that impairs the agent's  
8 ability to act impartially in the principal's best interest;

9 (3) act with the care, competence, and diligence ordinarily exercised by  
10 agents in similar circumstances;

11 (4) keep a record of all receipts, disbursements, and transactions made  
12 on behalf of the principal;

13 (5) cooperate with a person that has authority to make health care  
14 decisions for the principal to carry out the principal's reasonable expectations to the  
15 extent actually known by the agent and, otherwise, act in the principal's best interest;  
16 and

17 (6) attempt to preserve the principal's estate plan, to the extent actually  
18 known by the agent, if preserving the plan is consistent with the principal's best  
19 interest based on all relevant factors, including

20 (A) the value and nature of the principal's property;

21 (B) the principal's foreseeable obligations and need for  
22 maintenance;

23 (C) minimization of taxes, including income, estate, inheritance,  
24 generation-skipping transfer, and gift taxes; and

25 (D) eligibility for a benefit, a program, or assistance under a  
26 statute or regulation.

27 (c) An agent that acts in good faith is not liable to any beneficiary of the  
28 principal's estate plan for failure to preserve the plan.

29 (d) An agent that acts with care, competence, and diligence for the best interest  
30 of the principal is not liable solely because the agent also benefits from the act or has  
31 an individual or conflicting interest in relation to the property or affairs of the

principal.

(e) If an agent is selected by the principal because of special skills or expertise possessed by the agent or in reliance on the agent's representation that the agent has special skills or expertise, the special skills or expertise must be considered in determining whether the agent has acted with care, competence, and diligence under the circumstances.

(f) Absent a breach of duty to the principal, an agent is not liable if the value of the principal's property declines.

(g) An agent that exercises authority to delegate to another person the authority granted by the principal or that engages another person on behalf of the principal is not liable for an act, error of judgment, or default of that person if the agent exercises care, competence, and diligence in selecting and monitoring the person.

(h) Except as otherwise provided in the power of attorney, an agent is not required to disclose receipts, disbursements, or transactions conducted on behalf of the principal unless ordered by a court or requested by the principal, a guardian, a conservator, another fiduciary acting for the principal, a governmental agency having authority to protect the welfare of the principal, or, upon the death of the principal, the personal representative or successor in interest of the principal's estate. If so requested, within 30 days the agent shall comply with the request or provide a writing or other record substantiating why additional time is needed and shall comply with the request within an additional 30 days.

**Sec. 13.26.328. Acceptance of power of attorney.** (a) A third party asked to accept a power of attorney may request, and rely upon, without further investigation

(1) an agent's certification under penalty of perjury of any factual matter concerning the principal, agent, or power of attorney;

(2) an English translation of the power of attorney if the power of attorney contains, in whole or in part, language other than English; and

(3) an opinion of counsel as to any matter of law concerning the power of attorney if the person making the request provides in a writing or other record the reason for the request.

(b) An English translation or an opinion of counsel requested under this section

1 must be provided at the principal's expense unless the request is made more than seven  
2 business days after the power of attorney is presented for acceptance.

3 (c) For purposes of this section, a person that conducts activities through  
4 employees is without actual knowledge of a fact relating to a principal, agent, or  
5 power of attorney if the employee conducting the transaction involving the power of  
6 attorney is without actual knowledge of the fact.

7 (d) Except as otherwise provided in (e) of this section,

8 (1) a person shall accept an acknowledged power of attorney or request  
9 a certification, a translation, or an opinion of counsel under (a) of this section not later  
10 than seven business days after presentation of the power of attorney for acceptance;

11 (2) if a person requests a certification, a translation, or an opinion of  
12 counsel under (a) of this section, the person shall accept the power of attorney not later  
13 than five business days after receipt of the certification, translation, or opinion of  
14 counsel; and

15 (3) a person may not require an additional or different form of power of  
16 attorney for authority granted in the power of attorney presented.

17 (e) Notwithstanding AS 13.26.357, a person is not required to accept an  
18 acknowledged power of attorney if

19 (1) the person is not otherwise required to engage in a transaction with  
20 the principal in the same circumstances;

21 (2) engaging in a transaction with the agent or principal in the same  
22 circumstances would be inconsistent with federal law;

23 (3) the person has actual knowledge of the termination of the agent's  
24 authority or of the power of attorney before exercise of the power;

25 (4) a request for a certification, a translation, or an opinion of counsel  
26 under (a) of this section is refused;

27 (5) the person in good faith believes that the power is not valid or that  
28 the agent does not have the authority to perform the act requested, whether or not a  
29 certification, a translation, or an opinion of counsel under (a) of this section has been  
30 requested or provided; or

31 (6) the person makes, or has actual knowledge that another person has

made, a report to Department of Health and Social Services or other governmental agency, stating a good faith belief that the principal may be subject to physical or financial abuse, neglect, exploitation, or abandonment by the agent or a person acting for or with the agent.

(f) A person that refuses in violation of this section to accept an acknowledged power of attorney is subject to

(1) a court order mandating acceptance of the power of attorney; and

(2) liability as provided by court rules of this state for attorney fees and costs incurred in any action or proceeding that confirms the validity of the power of attorney or mandates acceptance of the power of attorney.

**Sec. 13.26.329. Termination of power of attorney; agent's resignation; notice.** (a) Except as provided in AS 13.26.356, a power of attorney terminates when

(1) the principal dies;

(2) there is an incapacity of the principal, if the power of attorney is not durable;

(3) the principal revokes the power of attorney;

(4) the power of attorney provides that it terminates;

(5) the purpose of the power of attorney is accomplished; or

(6) the principal revokes the agent's authority, there is an incapacity of the agent, the agent dies, or the agent resigns, and the power of attorney does not provide for another agent to act under the power of attorney.

(b) Unless the power of attorney provides a different method for an agent's resignation, an agent may resign by giving notice to the principal and, if there is an incapacity of the principal,

(1) to the conservator or guardian, if one has been appointed for the principal, and a coagent or successor agent; or

(2) if there is no person described in (1) of this subsection, to

(A) the principal's custodian or caregiver;

(B) another person reasonably believed by the agent to have sufficient interest in the principal's welfare; or

(C) a governmental agency having statutory authority to protect

the welfare of the principal.

\* **Sec. 5.** AS 13.26 is amended by adding a new section to article 5 to read:

**Sec. 13.26.331. Validity of power of attorney executed in another state.** A

power of attorney executed other than in this state is valid in this state if, when the power of attorney was executed, the execution complied with

(1) the law of the jurisdiction where the power of attorney was executed; or

(2) the requirements for a military power of attorney under 10 U.S.C. 1044b, as amended.

\* **Sec. 6.** AS 13.26.332 is amended to read:

**Sec. 13.26.332. Statutory form power of attorney.** A person who wishes to designate another as [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT OR] agent by a power of attorney may execute a statutory power of attorney set out in substantially the following form:

GENERAL POWER OF ATTORNEY

THE POWERS GRANTED FROM THE PRINCIPAL TO THE AGENT OR AGENTS IN THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT ARE VERY BROAD. THEY MAY INCLUDE THE POWER TO DISPOSE, SELL, CONVEY, AND ENCUMBER YOUR REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY. ACCORDINGLY, THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENT SHOULD ONLY BE USED AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT, YOU SHOULD SEEK COMPETENT ADVICE.

YOU MAY REVOKE THIS POWER OF ATTORNEY AT ANY TIME.

Pursuant to AS 13.26.338 - 13.26.359 [AS 13.26.338 - 13.26.353], I, (Name of principal), of (Address of principal), do hereby appoint (Name and address of agent or agents), my agent(s) [ATTORNEY(S)-IN-FACT] to act as indicated below in my name, place, and stead in any way which I myself could do, if I were personally present, with respect to the following matters, as each of them is defined in AS 13.26.344, to the full extent that I am permitted

by law to act through an agent:

**MARK THE BOXES BELOW TO INDICATE THE POWERS YOU WANT TO GIVE YOUR AGENT OR AGENTS. MARK THE BOX FOR "YES" THAT IS OPPOSITE A CATEGORY BELOW TO GIVE YOUR AGENT OR AGENTS THE POWER IN THAT CATEGORY. MARK THE BOX FOR "NO" THAT IS OPPOSITE A CATEGORY BELOW TO INDICATE THAT YOU ARE NOT GIVING YOUR AGENT OR AGENTS THE POWER IN THAT CATEGORY. MARK A BOX FOR EVERY CATEGORY. IF YOU DO NOT MARK EITHER OF THE BOXES OPPOSITE A CATEGORY, OR IF YOU MARK BOTH OF THE BOXES OPPOSITE A CATEGORY, YOUR AGENT OR AGENTS WILL NOT HAVE THE POWER IN THAT CATEGORY** [THE AGENT OR AGENTS YOU HAVE APPOINTED WILL HAVE ALL THE POWERS LISTED BELOW UNLESS YOU DRAW A LINE THROUGH A CATEGORY, AND INITIAL THE BOX OPPOSITE THAT CATEGORY].

	<b><u>YES</u></b>	<b><u>NO</u></b>
(A) real estate transactions	( )	<u>  </u>
(B) transactions involving tangible personal property, chattels, and goods	( )	<u>  </u>
(C) bonds, shares, and commodities transactions	( )	<u>  </u>
(D) banking transactions	( )	<u>  </u>
(E) business operating transactions	( )	<u>  </u>
(F) insurance transactions	( )	<u>  </u>
(G) estate transactions	( )	<u>  </u>
(H) <b><u>retirement plans</u></b> [GIFT TRANSACTIONS]	( )	<u>  </u>
(I) claims and litigation	( )	<u>  </u>
(J) personal relationships and affairs	( )	<u>  </u>
(K) benefits from government programs and <b><u>civil or</u></b> military service	( )	<u>  </u>



(L) records, reports, and statements ☐ Q  
(M) [DELEGATION ☐  
(N)] voter registration and absentee  
ballot requests ☐ Q  
(N) [(O)] all other matters, including those  
specified as follows: ☐ Q

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**GRANT OF SPECIFIC AUTHORITY (OPTIONAL)**

**The agent or agents you have appointed WILL NOT have the power to do any of the following acts UNLESS you MARK the box opposite that category:**

**( ) create, amend, revoke, or terminate an inter vivos trust;**  
**( ) make a gift, subject to the limitations of AS 13.26.344(q) and any special instructions in this power of attorney;**  
**( ) create or change a beneficiary designation;**  
**( ) revoke a transfer on death deed made under AS 13.48;**  
**( ) create or change rights of survivorship;**  
**( ) delegate authority granted under the power of attorney;**  
**( ) waive the principal's right to be a beneficiary of a joint and survivor annuity, including a survivor benefit under a retirement plan;**  
**( ) exercise fiduciary powers that the principal has authority to delegate.**

IF YOU HAVE APPOINTED MORE THAN ONE AGENT,  
**MARK** [CHECK] ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

( ) Each agent may exercise the powers conferred separately, without the consent of any other agent.  
( ) All agents shall exercise the powers conferred jointly, with the consent of all other agents.

TO INDICATE WHEN THIS DOCUMENT SHALL  
BECOME EFFECTIVE, **MARK** [CHECK] ONE OF THE  
FOLLOWING:

( ) This document shall become effective upon the date of my signature.

( ) This document shall become effective upon the date of my  
**incapacity** [DISABILITY] and shall not otherwise be affected by my  
**incapacity** [DISABILITY].

IF YOU HAVE INDICATED THAT THIS DOCUMENT  
SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON THE DATE OF YOUR  
SIGNATURE, **MARK** [CHECK] ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

( ) This document shall not be affected by my subsequent **incapacity**  
[DISABILITY].

( ) This document shall be revoked by my subsequent **incapacity**  
[DISABILITY].

IF YOU HAVE INDICATED THAT THIS DOCUMENT  
SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE UPON THE DATE OF YOUR  
SIGNATURE AND WANT TO LIMIT THE TERM OF THIS  
DOCUMENT, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

This document shall only continue in effect for \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) years from  
the date of my signature.

NOTICE OF REVOCATION OF THE POWERS GRANTED  
IN THIS DOCUMENT

You may revoke one or more of the powers granted in this document.  
Unless otherwise provided in this document, you may revoke a specific  
power granted in this power of attorney by completing a special power  
of attorney that includes the specific power in this document that you  
want to revoke. Unless otherwise provided in this document, you may  
revoke all the powers granted in this power of attorney by completing a  
subsequent power of attorney.

NOTICE TO THIRD PARTIES

A third party who relies on the reasonable representations of an **agent**

[ATTORNEY-IN-FACT] as to a matter relating to a power granted by a properly executed statutory form power of attorney does not incur any liability to the principal or to the principal's heirs, assigns, or estate as a result of permitting the agent [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT] to exercise the authority granted by the power of attorney. A third party who fails to honor a properly executed statutory form power of attorney may be liable to the principal, the agent [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT], the principal's heirs, assigns, or estate for a civil penalty, plus damages, costs, and fees associated with the failure to comply with the statutory form power of attorney. If the power of attorney is one which becomes effective upon the incapacity [DISABILITY] of the principal, the incapacity [DISABILITY] of the principal is established by an affidavit, as required by law.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto signed my name  
this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Principal

Acknowledged before me at \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Officer or Notary

\* **Sec. 7.** AS 13.26.335 is amended to read:

**Sec. 13.26.335. Additional optional provisions to statutory form power of attorney.** Each of the following provisions may be included in a statutory form power of attorney:

(1) [REPEALED.

(2)] YOU MAY DESIGNATE AN ALTERNATE AGENT [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT]. ANY ALTERNATE YOU DESIGNATE WILL BE ABLE TO EXERCISE THE SAME POWERS AS THE AGENT(S) YOU NAMED AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS DOCUMENT. IF YOU WISH TO DESIGNATE AN ALTERNATE OR ALTERNATES, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

If the agent(s) named at the beginning of this document is unable or unwilling to serve or continue to serve, then I appoint the following agent to serve with the same powers:

First alternate or successor agent [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT]

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name and address of alternate)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Second alternate or successor agent [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT]

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name and address of alternate)

(3) YOU MAY NOMINATE A GUARDIAN OR CONSERVATOR. IF YOU WISH TO NOMINATE A GUARDIAN OR CONSERVATOR, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

In the event that a court decides that it is necessary to appoint a guardian or conservator for me, I hereby nominate (Name and address of person nominated) to be considered by the court for appointment to serve as my guardian or conservator, or in any similar representative capacity.

\* **Sec. 8.** AS 13.26.341 is amended to read:

**Sec. 13.26.341. Applicability of provisions of statutory form power of attorney.** In the instrument set out in AS 13.26.332 - 13.26.335,

(1) if the principal has appointed more than one person to act as [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT OR] agent and failed to mark [CHECK] whether the agents may act "jointly" or "severally," the agents are required to act jointly;

(2) if the principal has failed to indicate when the instrument shall become effective, the instrument shall become effective upon the date of the principal's signature;

(3) if the principal has indicated that the instrument shall become effective upon the date of the principal's signature or has failed to indicate when the instrument shall become effective and has failed to indicate the effect of the principal's subsequent incapacity [DISABILITY] on the instrument, the instrument shall be

1 revoked by the subsequent **incapacity** [DISABILITY] of the principal;

2 (4) if the principal has failed to indicate a specific term for the  
3 instrument, the instrument shall continue in effect until revoked;

4 **(5) if the principal has failed to mark either of the "Yes" or "No"**  
5 **boxes opposite a category of power, or if the principal has marked both the**  
6 **"Yes" and "No" boxes opposite a category of power, the agent does not have the**  
7 **power in that category.**

8 \* **Sec. 9.** AS 13.26.344(a) is amended to read:

9 (a) In a statutory form power of attorney, the language conferring general  
10 authority with respect to real estate transactions shall be construed to mean that, as to  
11 an estate or interest in land of the principal, whether in the state or elsewhere, the  
12 principal authorizes the agent to

13 (1) accept as a gift or as security for a loan, demand, buy, lease,  
14 receive, or otherwise acquire either ownership or possession of any estate or interest in  
15 land;

16 (2) sell, exchange, convey, quitclaim, release, surrender, mortgage,  
17 encumber, partition or consent to the partitioning, [REVOKE, CREATE OR MODIFY  
18 A TRUST,] grant options concerning, lease or sublet, or otherwise to dispose of, an  
19 estate or interest in land;

20 (3) release in whole or in part, assign the whole or a part of, satisfy in  
21 whole or in part, and enforce a mortgage, encumbrance, lien, or other claim to land  
22 that exists, or is claimed to exist, in favor of the principal;

23 (4) do any act of management or of conservation with respect to an  
24 estate or interest in land owned, or claimed to be owned, by the principal, including by  
25 way of illustration, but not of restriction, power to insure against any casualty,  
26 liability, or loss, obtain or regain possession or protect the estate or interest, pay,  
27 compromise, or contest taxes or assessments, or apply for refunds in connection with a  
28 payment, compromise, or tax, purchase supplies, hire assistance of labor, and make  
29 repairs or alterations in the structures or land;

30 (5) use, develop, modify, alter, replace, remove, erect, or install  
31 structures or other improvements on land in which the principal has, or claims to have,

an estate or interest;

(6) demand, receive, or obtain money or any other thing of value to which the principal is, or may become, or may claim to be entitled as the proceeds of an interest in land or of one or more of the transactions enumerated in this subsection; conserve, invest, disburse, or use anything so received for purposes enumerated in this subsection; and reimburse the agent for an expenditure properly made in the execution of the powers conferred by the statutory form power of attorney;

(7) participate in any reorganization with respect to real property and receive and hold any shares of stock or instrument of similar character received under a plan of reorganization, and act with respect to a plan of reorganization, including by way of illustration, but not of restriction, power to sell or otherwise to dispose of shares, to exercise or to sell an option, conversion, or similar right, and to vote in person by the granting of a proxy;

(8) agree and contract, in any manner, and with any person and on any terms that the agent may select, for the accomplishment of any of the purposes enumerated in this subsection, and perform, rescind, reform, release, or modify an agreement or contract made by or on behalf of the principal;

(9) execute, acknowledge, seal, and deliver a deed, [REVOCATION, DECLARATION OR MODIFICATION OF TRUST,] mortgage, lease, notice, check, or other instrument that the agent considers useful for the accomplishment of any of the purposes enumerated in this subsection;

(10) prosecute, defend, submit to arbitration, settle, and propose or accept a compromise with respect to, a claim existing in favor of, or against, the principal based on or involving a real estate transaction or intervene in any related action;

(11) hire, discharge, and compensate an attorney, accountant, expert witness, or assistant when the agent considers that action to be desirable for the proper execution of a power described in this subsection, and for the keeping of records about that action; and

(12) do any other act or acts that the principal can do through an agent with respect to any estate or interest in land.

1     \* **Sec. 10.** AS 13.26.344(b) is amended to read:

2             (b) In a statutory form power of attorney, the language conferring general  
3     authority with respect to tangible personal property, chattels, and goods transactions  
4     shall be construed to mean that, as to tangible personal property, chattels, or goods  
5     owned by the principal, whether located in the state or elsewhere, the principal  
6     authorizes the agent to

7                 (1) accept as a gift, or as a security for a loan, reject, demand, buy,  
8     receive, or otherwise acquire either ownership or possession of chattels or goods or an  
9     interest in the tangible personal property, chattels, or goods;

10                (2) sell, exchange, convey, release, surrender, mortgage, encumber,  
11     pledge, hypothecate, pawn, [REVOKE, CREATE, OR MODIFY A TRUST,] grant  
12     options concerning, lease or sublet to others, or otherwise dispose of tangible personal  
13     property, chattels, or goods or an interest in them;

14                (3) release in whole or in part, assign the whole or a part of, satisfy in  
15     whole or in part, and enforce a mortgage, encumbrance, lien, or other claim that exists,  
16     or is claimed to exist, in favor of the principal with respect to any tangible personal  
17     property, chattels, or goods or an interest in them;

18                (4) do any act of management or of conservation with respect to any  
19     tangible personal property, chattels, or goods or to an interest in any tangible personal  
20     property, chattels, or goods owned, or claimed to be owned, by the principal, including  
21     by way of illustration, but not of restriction, power to insure against any casualty,  
22     liability, or loss, obtain or regain possession, or protect the tangible personal property,  
23     chattels, or goods or an interest in them, pay, compromise, or contest taxes or  
24     assessments, apply for refunds in connection with a payment, compromise, or tax,  
25     move from place to place, store for hire or on a gratuitous bailment, use, alter, and  
26     make repairs or alterations of any tangible personal property, chattels, or goods, or an  
27     interest in them;

28                (5) demand, receive, and obtain money or any other thing of value to  
29     which the principal is, or may become, or may claim to be, entitled as the proceeds of  
30     any tangible personal property, chattels, or goods or of an interest in them, or of one or  
31     more of the transactions enumerated in this subsection, conserve, invest, disburse, or

1 use anything so received for purposes enumerated in this subsection, and reimburse  
2 the agent for any expenditures properly made in the execution of the powers conferred  
3 by the power of attorney;

4 (6) agree and contract, in any manner, and with any person and on any  
5 terms that the agent may select, for the accomplishment of the purposes enumerated in  
6 this subsection, and perform, rescind, reform, release, or modify any agreement or  
7 contract or any other similar agreement or contract made by or on behalf of the  
8 principal;

9 (7) execute, acknowledge, seal, and deliver a conveyance,  
10 [REVOCATION, DECLARATION OR MODIFICATION OF TRUST,] mortgage,  
11 lease, notice, check or other instrument that the agent considers useful for the  
12 accomplishment of the purposes enumerated in this subsection;

13 (8) prosecute, defend, submit to arbitration, settle, and propose or  
14 accept a compromise with respect to, a claim existing in favor of, or against, the  
15 principal based on or involving a transaction involving tangible personal property,  
16 chattels, or goods, or intervene in an action or proceeding;

17 (9) hire, discharge, and compensate an attorney, accountant, expert  
18 witness, or assistant when the agent considers the action to be desirable to the proper  
19 execution of a power described in this subsection, and for the keeping of records about  
20 that action;

21 (10) do any other act or acts that the principal can do through an agent  
22 with respect to any chattels or goods or interest in any tangible personal property,  
23 chattels, or goods.

24 \* **Sec. 11.** AS 13.26.344(c) is amended to read:

25 (c) In a statutory form power of attorney, the language conferring general  
26 authority with respect to bonds, shares, and commodities transactions shall be  
27 construed to mean that, with respect to a bond, share, or commodity of the principal,  
28 whether in the state or elsewhere, the principal authorizes the agent to

29 (1) accept as a gift, or as a security for a loan, reject, demand, buy,  
30 receive, or otherwise acquire either ownership or possession of, a bond, share, or  
31 instrument of similar character including, by way of illustration, but not of restriction,



1 stock in a corporation organized under 43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq. (Alaska Native Claims  
2 Settlement Act), commodity interest, or an instrument with respect to a bond, share, or  
3 instruments of similar character, together with the interest, dividends, proceeds, or  
4 other distributions connected with a bond, share, or instrument of a similar character;

5 (2) sell, exchange, transfer, release, surrender, hypothecate, pledge,  
6 [REVOKE, CREATE, OR MODIFY A TRUST,] grant options concerning, loan, trade  
7 in, or otherwise dispose of a bond, share, instrument of similar character, commodity  
8 interest, or a related instrument;

9 (3) release, assign the whole or part of, satisfy in whole or in part, and  
10 enforce a pledge, encumbrance, lien, or other claim as to a bond, share, instrument of  
11 similar character, commodity interest, or a related interest, when the pledge,  
12 encumbrance, lien, or other claim is owned, or claimed to be owned, by the principal;

13 (4) do any act of management or of conservation with respect to a  
14 bond, share, instrument of similar character, commodity interest, or a related  
15 instrument, owned or claimed to be owned by the principal or in which the principal  
16 has or claims to have an interest, including by way of illustration, but not of  
17 restriction, power to insure against a casualty, liability, or loss, obtain or regain  
18 possession or protect the principal's interest, pay, compromise, or contest taxes or  
19 assessments, apply for a refund in connection with a payment, compromise, or tax,  
20 consent to and participate in a reorganization, recapitalization, liquidation, merger,  
21 consolidation, sale or lease or other change in or revival of a corporation or other  
22 association, or in the financial structure of a corporation or other association, or in the  
23 priorities, voting rights, or other special rights with respect to a corporation or  
24 association, become a depositor with a protective, reorganization or similar committee  
25 of the bond, share, other instrument of similar character, commodity interest or a  
26 related instrument, belonging to the principal, make a payment reasonably incident to  
27 them, and exercise or sell an option, conversion, or similar right, or vote in person or  
28 by the granting of a proxy for the accomplishment of the purposes enumerated in this  
29 subsection;

30 (5) carry in the name of a nominee selected by the agent evidence of  
31 the ownership of a bond, share, other instrument of similar character, commodity

interest, or related instrument belonging to the principal;

(6) employ, in any way believed to be desirable by the agent, a bond, share, other instrument of similar character, commodity interest, or a related instrument, in which the principal has or claims to have an interest, for the protection or continued operation of a speculative or margin transaction personally begun or personally guaranteed, in whole or in part, by the principal;

(7) demand, receive, or obtain money or any other thing of value to which the principal is, or may claim to be, entitled as the proceeds of an interest in a bond, share, other instrument of similar character, commodity interest or a related instrument, or of one or more of the transactions enumerated in this subsection, conserve, invest, disburse, or use anything so received for purposes enumerated in this subsection; and reimburse the agent for an expenditure properly made in the execution of the powers conferred by the statutory form power of attorney;

(8) agree and contract, in any manner, and with a broker or other person, and on terms that the agent may select, for the accomplishment of the purposes enumerated in this subsection, and perform, rescind, reform, release, or modify the agreement or contract or other similar agreement made by or on behalf of the principal;

(9) execute, acknowledge, seal, and deliver a consent, agreement, authorization, assignment, [REVOCATION, DECLARATION OR MODIFICATION OF TRUST,] notice, waiver of notice, check, or other instrument that the agent considers useful for the accomplishment of the purposes enumerated in this subsection;

(10) execute, acknowledge and file a report or certificate required by law or regulation;

(11) prosecute, defend, submit to arbitration, settle, and propose or accept a compromise with respect to, a claim existing in favor of, or against, the principal based on or involving a bond, share, or commodity transactions, or intervene in a related action or proceeding;

(12) hire, discharge, and compensate an attorney, accountant, expert witness, or assistant when the agent considers that action to be desirable for the proper

1 execution of the powers described in this subsection, and for the keeping of records  
2 about that action; and

3 (13) do any other act or acts that the principal can do through an agent,  
4 with respect to an interest in a bond, share, or other instrument of similar character,  
5 commodity, or instrument with respect to a commodity.

6 \* **Sec. 12.** AS 13.26.344(d) is amended to read:

7 (d) In a statutory form power of attorney, the language conferring general  
8 authority with respect to banking transactions shall be construed to mean that, as to a  
9 banking transaction engaged in by the principal, whether in the state or elsewhere, the  
10 principal authorizes the agent to

11 (1) continue, modify, or terminate a deposit account or other banking  
12 arrangement made by or on the behalf of the principal before the execution of the  
13 power of attorney;

14 (2) open, either in the name of the agent alone or in the name of the  
15 principal alone, or in both their names jointly, a deposit account of any type in a  
16 financial institution selected by the agent, hire a safe deposit box or vault space, and  
17 enter into contracts for the procuring of other services made available by the  
18 institution that the agent considers desirable;

19 (3) make, sign, and deliver checks or drafts for any purpose, and  
20 withdraw funds or property of the principal deposited with or left in the custody of a  
21 financial institution, wherever located, either before or after the execution of the  
22 power of attorney;

23 (4) prepare financial statements concerning the assets and liabilities or  
24 income and expenses of the principal, and deliver the statements to a financial  
25 institution or person whom the agent believes to be reasonably entitled to them;

26 (5) receive statements, vouchers, notices, or other documents from a  
27 financial institution and act with respect to them;

28 (6) have free access to a safe deposit box or vault to which the principal  
29 would have access if personally present;

30 (7) borrow money as the agent may determine, give security out of the  
31 assets of the principal as the agent considers necessary for the borrowing, and pay,

1 renew, or extend the time of payment of a financial institution by any other procedure  
2 made available by the institution;

3 (8) make, assign, endorse, discount, guarantee, use, and negotiate  
4 promissory notes, bills of exchange, checks, drafts, credit and debit cards, electronic  
5 transaction authorizations, or other negotiable or nonnegotiable paper of the  
6 principal, or payable to the principal or to the principal's order, receive the cash or  
7 other proceeds of them; and accept any bill of exchange or draft drawn by any person  
8 upon the principal, and pay it when due;

9 (9) receive for the principal and deal in and with a negotiable or  
10 nonnegotiable instrument in which the principal has or claims to have an interest;

11 (10) apply for and receive letters of credit or traveler's checks from a  
12 banker or banking institution selected by the agent, giving indemnity or other  
13 agreements in connection with the applications or receipts that the agent considers  
14 desirable or necessary;

15 (11) consent to an extension in the time of payment with respect to  
16 commercial paper or a banking transaction in which the principal has an interest or by  
17 which the principal is, or might be, affected in any way;

18 (12) pay, compromise, or contest taxes or assessments and apply for  
19 refunds in connection with the payment, compromise, or contest;

20 (13) demand, receive, or obtain money or any other thing of value to  
21 which the principal is, or may become, or may claim to be entitled as the proceeds of  
22 any banking transaction conducted by the principal or by the agent in the execution of  
23 the powers described in this subsection, or partly by the principal and partly by the  
24 agent; conserve, invest, disburse, or use anything received for purposes enumerated in  
25 this subsection, and reimburse the agent for an expenditure properly made in the  
26 execution of the powers conferred by the statutory form power of attorney;

27 (14) execute, acknowledge, seal, and deliver an instrument, in the name  
28 of the principal or otherwise, that the agent considers useful for the accomplishment of  
29 a purpose enumerated in this subsection;

30 (15) prosecute, defend, submit to arbitration, settle, and propose or  
31 accept a compromise with respect to, a claim existing in favor of, or against, the

principal based on or involving a banking transaction, or intervene in an action or proceeding relating to a banking transaction;

(16) hire, discharge, and compensate an attorney, accountant, expert witness, or assistant when the agent considers that the action is desirable for the proper execution of the powers described in this subsection, and for the keeping of records about that action; and

(17) do any other act or acts that the principal can do through an agent in connection with a banking transaction that does or might in any way affect the financial or other interests of the principal.

\* **Sec. 13.** AS 13.26.344(e) is amended to read:

(e) In a statutory form power of attorney, the language conferring general authority with respect to business operating transactions shall be construed to mean that, with respect to a business in which the principal has an interest, whether in the state or elsewhere, the principal authorizes the agent

(1) to the extent that an agent is permitted by law to act for a principal, to discharge and perform any duty or liability and exercise any right, power, privilege, or option that the principal has, or claims to have, under a contract of partnership, whether as a general or special partner, enforce the terms of the partnership agreement for the protection of the principal that the agent considers desirable or necessary, and defend, submit to arbitration, settle, or compromise an action to which the principal is a party because of membership in a partnership;

(2) to exercise in person or by proxy or enforce a right, power, privilege, or option that the principal has as the holder of a bond, share, or other instrument of similar character, and defend, submit to arbitration, settle, or compromise an action to which the principal is a party because of a bond, share, or other instrument of similar character;

(3) with respect to a business enterprise that is owned solely by the principal, to

(A) continue, modify, renegotiate, extend and terminate a contractual arrangement made with a person, firm, association, or corporation by or on behalf of the principal;

(B) determine the policy of the enterprise as to the location of the site or sites to be used for its operation, the nature and extent of the business to be undertaken by it, the methods of manufacturing, selling, merchandising, financing, accounting, and advertising to be employed in its operation, the amount and types of insurance to be carried, the mode of securing compensation and dealing with accountants, attorneys, and employees required for its operation, agree and contract, in any manner, and with any person and on any terms, that the agent considers desirable or necessary to carry out any or all of the decisions of the agent as to policy, and perform, rescind, reform, release, or modify an agreement or contract or any other similar agreement or contract made by or on behalf of the principal;

(C) change the name or form of organization under which the business is operated and enter into a partnership agreement with others or organize a corporation to take over the operation of the business, or any part of it, that the agent considers desirable or necessary;

(D) demand and receive all money that is or may become due to the principal, or that may be claimed by the principal or on the principal's behalf, in the operation of the enterprise, and control and disburse the funds in the operation of the enterprise in any way that the agent considers desirable or necessary, and engage in banking transactions that the agent considers desirable or necessary to carry out the execution of the powers of the agent described in this subparagraph;

(4) to prepare, sign, file, and deliver all reports, compilations of information, returns, and other papers with respect to a business operating transaction of the principal that is required by a government agency or that the agent considers desirable or necessary for any purpose, and make any payments with respect to the agency;

(5) to pay, compromise, or contest taxes or assessments and do any act or acts that the agent considers desirable or necessary to protect the principal from illegal or unnecessary taxation, fines, penalties, or assessments in connection with the business operations;

(6) **to** demand, receive, or obtain money or any other thing of value to which the principal is or may claim to be entitled as the proceeds of a business operation of the principal, conserve, invest, disburse, and use anything so received for purposes enumerated in this subsection, and reimburse the agent for expenditures properly made in the execution of the powers conferred by the statutory form power of attorney;

(7) **to** execute, acknowledge, seal, and deliver a deed, assignment, mortgage, lease, notice, consent, agreement, authorization check, or other instrument that the agent considers useful for the accomplishment of any of the purposes enumerated in this subsection;

(8) **to** prosecute, defend, submit to arbitration, settle, and propose or accept a compromise with respect to, a claim existing in favor of, or against, the principal based on or involving a business operating transaction or intervene in a related action;

(9) **to** hire, discharge, and compensate an attorney, accountant, expert witness, or assistant when the agent reasonably believes that the action is desirable for the proper execution of the powers described in this subsection, and for the keeping of records about that action;

**(10) to operate, buy, sell, enlarge, reduce, or terminate an ownership interest;**

**(11) to put additional capital into an entity or business in which the principal has an interest;**

**(12) to join in a plan of reorganization, consolidation, conversion, domestication, or merger of the entity or business;**

**(13) to sell or liquidate all or part of an entity or business; and**

**(14) to establish the value of an entity or business under a buy-out agreement to which the principal is a party; and**

**(15) to** [AND (10)] do any other act or acts that the principal can do through an agent in connection with a business operated by the principal that the agent considers desirable or necessary for the furtherance or protection of the interests of the principal.

1     \* **Sec. 14.** AS 13.26.344(f) is amended to read:

2             (f) In a statutory form power of attorney, the language conferring general  
3     authority with respect to insurance transactions shall be construed to mean that, as to a  
4     contract of insurance in which the principal has an interest, whether in the state or  
5     elsewhere, the principal authorizes the agent to

6             (1) continue, pay the premium or assessment on, modify, rescind,  
7     release, or terminate any contract of life, accident, health, disability, or liability  
8     insurance, or any combination of insurance, procured by or on behalf of the principal  
9     before the creation of the agency that insures either the principal or any other person  
10    without regard to whether the principal is or is not a beneficiary under the insurance  
11    coverage;

12            (2) procure new, different, or additional contracts on the life of the  
13    principal or protecting the principal with respect to ill health, disability, accident, or  
14    liability of any sort, select the amount, the type of insurance contract, and the mode of  
15    payment under each policy, pay the premium or assessment on, modify, rescind,  
16    release, or terminate a contract so procured by the agent; and designate the beneficiary  
17    of the contract of insurance, except that the agent cannot be the beneficiary unless the  
18    agent is spouse, child, grandchild, parent, brother, or sister of the principal;

19            (3) apply for and receive a loan on the security of the contract of  
20    insurance, whether for the payment of a premium or for the procuring of cash;  
21    surrender and receive the cash surrender value; exercise an election as to beneficiary  
22    or mode of payment, change the manner of paying premiums, change or convert the  
23    type of insurance contract with respect to any insurance that the principal has, or  
24    claims to have, as to any power described in this subsection; and change the  
25    beneficiary of a contract of insurance, except that the agent cannot be the new  
26    beneficiary unless the agent is spouse, child, grandchild, parent, brother, or sister of  
27    the principal;

28            (4) demand, receive, or obtain money or any other thing of value to  
29    which the principal is, or may become, or may claim to be entitled as the proceeds of a  
30    contract of insurance or of one or more of the transactions enumerated in this  
31    subsection; conserve, invest, disburse, or use anything received for purposes



enumerated in this subsection and reimburse the agent for expenditures properly made in the execution of the powers conferred by the statutory form power of attorney;

(5) apply for and procure available government aid in the guaranteeing or paying of premiums of a contract of insurance on the life of the principal;

(6) sell, assign, hypothecate, borrow upon, or pledge the interest of the principal in any contract of insurance;

(7) pay, from the proceeds of an insurance contract or otherwise, compromise, or contest, and apply for refunds in connection with, a tax or assessment levied by a taxing authority with respect to a contract of insurance or the proceeds of or liability accruing by reason of a tax or assessment;

(8) agree and contract, in any manner and with any person and on any terms that the agent may select, for the accomplishment of the purposes enumerated in this subsection, and perform, rescind, reform, release, or modify any agreement or contract;

(9) execute, acknowledge, seal, and deliver any consent, demand, request, application, agreement, indemnity, authorization, assignment, pledge, notice, check, receipt, waiver, or other instrument that the agent considers useful for the accomplishment of a purpose enumerated in this subsection;

(10) continue, procure, pay the premium or assessment on, modify, rescind, release, terminate, or otherwise deal with any contract of insurance, other than those enumerated in (1) and (2) of this subsection, or any combination of insurance; and do any act with respect to the contract or with respect to its proceeds or enforcement that the agent considers desirable or necessary for the promotion or protection of the interests of the principal;

(11) prosecute, defend, submit to arbitration, settle, and propose or accept a compromise with respect to a claim existing in favor of, or against, the principal based on or involving an insurance transaction, or intervene in an action relating to an insurance transaction;

(12) hire, discharge, and compensate an attorney, accountant, expert witness, or assistant when the agent considers the action to be desirable for the proper execution of a power described in this subsection, and for the keeping of records about

that action; [AND]

(13) exercise investment powers available under a contract of insurance or annuity; and

(14) do any other act or acts that the principal can do through an agent in connection with procuring, supervising, managing, modifying, enforcing, and terminating contracts of insurance in which the principal is the insured or has an interest.

\* **Sec. 15.** AS 13.26.344(h) is repealed and reenacted to read:

(h) In a statutory form power of attorney, the language conferring authority with respect to retirement plans shall be construed to mean that the principal authorizes the agent to

(1) select the form and timing of payments under a retirement plan and withdraw benefits from a plan;

(2) make a rollover, including a direct trustee-to-trustee rollover, of benefits from one retirement plan to another;

(3) establish a retirement plan in the principal's name;

(4) make contributions to a retirement plan;

(5) exercise investment powers available under a retirement plan; and

(6) borrow from, sell assets to, or purchase assets from a retirement plan.

\* **Sec. 16.** AS 13.26.344(j) is amended to read:

(j) In a statutory form power of attorney, the language conferring general authority with respect to personal relationships is neither dependent on, nor limited by, authority that an agent may or may not have with respect to gifts under AS 13.26.326 - 13.26.359, and shall be construed to mean that, as to real and personal property owned by the principal, whether in the state or elsewhere, the principal authorizes the agent to

(1) do all acts necessary to maintain the customary standard of living of the spouse, children, [AND] other dependents of the principal, whether living when the power of attorney is executed or later born, and individuals whom the principal has customarily supported or indicated the intent to support, including

1 by way of illustration and not by way of restriction, power to provide living quarters  
2 by purchase, by lease, or by other contract, or by any payment of the operating costs,  
3 including interest, amortization payments, repairs, and taxes, of premises owned by  
4 the principal and occupied by the principal's family or dependents, to provide normal  
5 domestic help for the operation of the household, to provide usual vacations and usual  
6 travel expenses, to provide usual educational facilities, [AND] to provide funds for all  
7 the current living costs of the spouse, children, and other dependents, including,  
8 among other things, shelter, clothing, food, and incidentals, and to make periodic  
9 payments of child support and other family maintenance required by a court or  
10 governmental agency or an agreement to which the principal is a party;

11 (2) provide, whenever necessary, medical, dental, and surgical care,  
12 hospitalization, and custodial care for the spouse, children, and other dependents of the  
13 principal;

14 (3) continue whatever provision has been made by the principal for the  
15 principal's spouse, children, and other dependents, with respect to automobiles, or  
16 other means of transportation, including by way of illustration, but not by way of  
17 restriction, power to license, insure, and replace automobiles owned by the principal  
18 and customarily used by the spouse, children, or other dependents of the principal;

19 (4) continue whatever charge accounts have been opened for the  
20 convenience of the principal's spouse, children, or other dependents, open any new  
21 accounts that the agent considers desirable to accomplish the purposes enumerated in  
22 this subsection, and pay the items charged on these accounts by a person authorized or  
23 permitted by the principal to make the charges;

24 (5) continue the discharge of any services or duties assumed by the  
25 principal to a parent, relative, or friend of the principal;

26 (6) supervise, enforce, defend, or settle any claim by or against the  
27 principal arising out of property damages or personal injuries suffered by or caused by  
28 the principal, or under any circumstance that the resulting loss will or may fall on the  
29 principal;

30 (7) continue payments incidental to the membership or affiliation of the  
31 principal in a church, club, society, order, or other organization, or continue

contributions to the organization;

(8) demand, receive, or obtain money or any other thing of value to which the principal is or may become or may claim to be entitled as remuneration for services performed, or as a stock dividend or distribution, or as interest or principal upon indebtedness, or as a periodic distribution of profits from any partnership or business in which the principal has or claims an interest, and endorse, collect, or otherwise realize upon an instrument for the payment received;

(9) prepare, execute, and file all tax, social security, unemployment insurance, and information returns required by the laws of the United States or of any state or subdivision, or of any foreign government; prepare, execute, and file all other papers and instruments that the agent considers desirable or necessary for the safeguarding of the principal against excess or illegal taxation or against penalties imposed for claimed violation of a law or regulation; and pay, compromise, or contest or apply for refunds in connection with a tax or assessment for which the principal is or may be liable;

(10) use an asset of the principal to perform a power enumerated in this subsection, including by way of illustration and not by way of restriction, power to draw money by check or otherwise from a bank deposit of the principal, to sell land or a chattel, bond, share, commodity interest, or other asset of the principal, to borrow money, and to pledge as security for the loan any asset, including insurance, that belongs to the principal;

(11) execute, acknowledge, verify, seal, file, and deliver an application, consent, petition, notice, release, waiver, agreement, or other instrument that the agent considers useful to accomplish a purpose enumerated in this subsection;

(12) prosecute, defend, submit to arbitration, settle, and propose or accept a compromise with respect to a claim existing in favor of, or against, the principal based on or involving a transaction enumerated in this subsection, or intervene in any action or proceeding related to a transaction;

(13) hire, discharge, and compensate an attorney, accountant, expert witness, or assistant when the agent considers the action to be desirable for the proper execution of any of the powers described in this subsection, and for the keeping of

records, about that action; [AND]

(14) do any other act or acts that the principal can do through an agent, for the welfare of the spouse, children, or dependents of the principal or for the preservation and maintenance of the other personal relationships of the principal to a parent, relative, friend, or organization; **and**

**(15) act as the principal's personal representative under 42 U.S.C. 1320d (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and secs. 1171 - 1179, Social Security Act), as amended, and applicable regulations, in making decisions related to the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care consented to by the principal or anyone authorized under the law of this state to consent to health care on behalf of the principal.**

\* **Sec. 17.** AS 13.26.344(k) is amended to read:

(k) In a statutory form power of attorney, the language conferring general authority with respect to benefits from government programs **or civil or** [AND] military service shall be construed to mean that, whether the benefits from the government programs or **civil or** military service have accrued to the principal in the state or elsewhere, the principal authorizes the agent to

(1) prepare and execute vouchers, applications, requests, forms, and other legal documents in the name of the principal for all benefits, bonuses, dividends, allowances, and reimbursements payable under any government program or military service of the United States, a state, or a subdivision, **including allowances and reimbursements for transportation of the individuals described in (j)(1) of this section, and for shipment of their household effects,** and receive, endorse, and collect the proceeds of a check payable to the order of the principal drawn on the treasurer or other fiscal officer or depository of the United States, a state, or a subdivision;

(2) take possession and order the removal and shipment of property of the principal from any post, warehouse, depot, dock, or other place or storage or safekeeping and execute and deliver any release, voucher, receipt, bill of lading, shipping ticket, certificate, or other instrument that the agent considers desirable or necessary for that purpose;

(3) prepare, file, and prosecute the claim of the principal to any benefit or assistance to which the principal is, or claims to be, entitled under the provisions of a statute or regulation of the United States, a state, or a subdivision;

(4) receive the financial proceeds of a claim of the type described in this subsection; conserve, invest, disburse or use anything received for purposes enumerated in this subsection; and reimburse the agent for expenditures properly made in the execution of the powers conferred by the statutory form power of attorney;

(5) prosecute, defend, submit to arbitration, settle, and propose or accept a compromise with respect to a claim existing in favor of, or against, the principal based on or involving a benefit from a government program or military service, or intervene in an action relating to a claim;

(6) hire, discharge, or compensate an attorney, accountant, expert witness, or assistant when the agent considers that action to be desirable for the proper execution of any of the powers described in this subsection; [AND]

(7) enroll in, apply for, select, reject, change, amend, or discontinue, on the principal's behalf, a benefit or program; and

(8) do any other act or acts that the principal can do through an agent, and that [WHICH] the agent considers desirable or necessary to assure to the principal and to the dependents of the principal [,] the maximum possible benefit from the government programs or civil or military service of the United States, a state, or a subdivision.

\* **Sec. 18.** AS 13.26.344 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(q) In a statutory form power of attorney, unless the power of attorney otherwise provides, the language conferring specific authority with respect to gift transactions shall be construed to mean that the principal authorizes the agent only

(1) to make a gift of the principal's property only as the agent determines is consistent with the principal's objectives if actually known by the agent and, if unknown, as the agent determines is consistent with the principal's best interest based on all relevant factors, including

(A) the value and nature of the principal's property;

(B) the principal's foreseeable obligations and need for

1 maintenance;

2 (C) minimization of taxes, including income, estate, inheritance,  
3 generation-skipping transfer, and gift taxes;

4 (D) eligibility for a benefit, a program, or assistance under a  
5 statute or regulation; and

6 (E) the principal's personal history of making or joining in  
7 making gifts;

8 (2) subject to (1) of this subsection, to make outright to, or for the  
9 benefit of, a person, a gift of any of the principal's property, including by the exercise  
10 of a presently exercisable general power of appointment held by the principal, in an  
11 amount for each donee not to exceed the annual dollar limits of the federal gift tax  
12 exclusion under 26 U.S.C. 2503(b) (Internal Revenue Code), as amended, without  
13 regard to whether the federal gift tax exclusion applies to the gift, or if the principal's  
14 spouse agrees to consent to a split gift under 26 U.S.C. 2513 (Internal Revenue Code),  
15 as amended, in an amount for each donee not to exceed twice the annual federal gift  
16 tax exclusion limit; in this paragraph, "presently exercisable general power of  
17 appointment," with respect to property or a property interest subject to a power of  
18 appointment, means power exercisable at the time in question to vest absolute  
19 ownership in the principal individually, the principal's estate, the principal's creditors,  
20 or the creditors of the principal's estate; the term includes a power of appointment not  
21 exercisable until the occurrence of a specified event, the satisfaction of an  
22 ascertainable standard, or the passage of a specified period only after the occurrence of  
23 the specified event, the satisfaction of the ascertainable standard, or the passage of the  
24 specified period; the term does not include a power exercisable in a fiduciary capacity  
25 or only by will; and

26 (3) subject to (1) of this subsection, to consent, under 26 U.S.C. 2513  
27 (Internal Revenue Code), as amended, to the splitting of a gift made by the principal's  
28 spouse in an amount for each donee not to exceed the aggregate annual gift tax  
29 exclusions for both spouses.

30 \* **Sec. 19.** AS 13.26.347 is amended to read:

31 **Sec. 13.26.347. Validity of modified statutory form power of attorney. A**

power of attorney that satisfies the requirements of AS 13.26.332 - 13.26.344 is not prevented from being a statutory form power of attorney by the fact that it also contains additional language that

(1) eliminates from the power of attorney one or more of the powers enumerated in one or more of the subsections of AS 13.26.344 with respect to a section of the statutory form power of attorney that is not eliminated by the principal;

(2) supplements one or more of the powers enumerated in one or more of the subsections of AS 13.26.344 with respect to a section of the statutory form power of attorney that is not eliminated by the principal by specifically listing additional powers of the agent; [OR]

(3) makes an additional provision that is not substantially inconsistent with the other provisions of the statutory form power of attorney; or

(4) relieves an agent of liability for breach of a duty under AS 13.26.327, except to the extent the provision

(A) relieves the agent of liability for breach of duty committed dishonestly, with an improper motive, or with reckless indifference to the purposes of the power of attorney or the best interest of the principal; or

(B) was inserted as a result of an abuse of a confidential or fiduciary relationship with the principal.

\* **Sec. 20.** AS 13.26.350 is amended to read:

**Sec. 13.26.350. When statutory form power of attorney is not affected by incapacity [DISABILITY OR INCOMPETENCE] of principal.** (a) The subsequent incapacity [DISABILITY OR INCOMPETENCE] of a principal does not revoke or terminate the authority of an agent [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT] who acts under a power of attorney in a writing executed by a principal if the writing contains the words "This power of attorney shall become effective upon the incapacity [DISABILITY] of the principal," or contains the words "This power of attorney shall not be affected by the subsequent incapacity [DISABILITY] of the principal," or words substantially similar showing the intent of the principal that the authority conferred shall be exercisable notwithstanding the principal's subsequent incapacity



[DISABILITY, INCOMPETENCE,] or uncertainty as to whether the principal is dead or alive.

(b) An act done by an **agent** [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT] under a power granted in a power of attorney under AS 13.26.332 - 13.26.344 during a period of **incapacity** [DISABILITY, INCOMPETENCE,] or uncertainty as to whether the principal is dead or alive has the same effect and enures to the benefit of and binds a principal and the principal's distributees, devisees, legatees, and personal representatives as if **there were no incapacity of** the principal [WERE COMPETENT AND NOT DISABLED]. If a conservator is later appointed for the principal, during the continuance of the appointment, **the agent is accountable to the conservator as well as to the principal** [THE ATTORNEY-IN-FACT SHALL ACCOUNT TO THE CONSERVATOR RATHER THAN TO THE PRINCIPAL]. The conservator has the same power **to revoke, suspend, or terminate the power of attorney that** the principal would have if **there was no incapacity of** the principal [WERE NOT DISABLED OR INCOMPETENT TO REVOKE, SUSPEND, OR TERMINATE THE POWER OF ATTORNEY].

\* **Sec. 21.** AS 13.26.353(a) is repealed and reenacted to read:

(a) For purposes of AS 13.26.332 - 13.26.344,

(1) the incapacity of a principal shall be established by affidavit stating that the principal is unable to manage property or business affairs because the principal

(A) has an impairment in the ability to receive and evaluate information or make or communicate decisions even with the use of technological assistance, and this impairment is the result of mental illness, mental deficiency, physical illness, physical disability, advanced age, use of drugs, chronic intoxication, or other similar medical or psychological reason, to such an extent that the principal is unable to manage the principal's property or affairs; or

(B) is

(i) missing;

(ii) detained, including incarcerated in a penal system; or

(iii) outside the United States and unable to return; and

(2) if the incapacity is based on (1)(A) of this subsection, two physicians or similarly qualified medical professionals who have personally examined the principal shall sign the affidavit; however, the affidavit may be signed by only one physician or similarly qualified medical professional if only one physician or similarly qualified medical professional is available and the affidavit executed by the person states that only one physician or similarly qualified medical professional is available.

\* **Sec. 22.** AS 13.26.353(b) is amended to read:

(b) A third party who relies on the reasonable representations of an **agent** [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT] designated under **AS 13.26.332 - 13.26.347** [AS 13.26.332 - 13.26.344] as to a matter relating to a power granted by a properly executed statutory form power of attorney does not incur a liability to the principal or the principal's heirs, assigns, or estate as a result of permitting the **agent** [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT] to exercise the authority granted by the power of attorney.

\* **Sec. 23.** AS 13.26 is amended by adding new sections to read:

**Sec. 13.26.354. Judicial relief.** (a) The following persons may petition a court in accordance with the provisions of AS 13.26.165 - 13.26.324 to construe a power of attorney, review the agent's conduct, and grant appropriate relief:

- (1) the principal or the agent;
- (2) the principal's attorney or other legal representative;
- (3) a guardian, conservator, or other fiduciary acting for the principal;
- (4) a person authorized to make health care decisions for the principal;
- (5) the principal's spouse, parent, or descendant;
- (6) an individual who would qualify as a presumptive heir of the principal;
- (7) a person named as a beneficiary to receive any property, benefit, or contractual right on the principal's death or as a beneficiary of a trust created by or for the principal that has a financial interest in the principal's estate;
- (8) the Department of Health and Social Services, the Department of Administration, the office of the long-term care ombudsman, or other governmental agency having statutory authority to protect the welfare of the principal;

(9) the principal's caregiver, custodian, or another person that demonstrates sufficient interest in the principal's welfare; and

(10) a person asked to accept the power of attorney.

(b) Upon motion by the principal, the court shall dismiss a petition filed under this section, unless the court finds that the principal lacks capacity to revoke the agent's authority or the power of attorney.

**Sec. 13.26.355. Relationship to other laws.** (a) Except as provided in (c) of this section, AS 13.26.326 - 13.26.359 do not supersede any other law applicable to a financial institution or other entity, and the other law controls if inconsistent with AS 13.26.326 - 13.26.359.

(b) The remedies in AS 13.26.326 - 13.26.359 are not exclusive and do not abrogate any right or remedy under the law of this state.

(c) AS 13.26.326 - 13.26.359 modify, limit, or supersede 15 U.S.C. 7001 - 7031 (Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act), but do not modify, limit, or supersede 15 U.S.C. 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in 15 U.S.C. 7003(b).

\* **Sec. 24.** AS 13.26.356 is amended to read:

**Sec. 13.26.356. Powers of attorney not revoked until notice of death or incapacity [DISABILITY].** (a) The death [, DISABILITY] or incapacity [INCOMPETENCE] of a principal who has executed a power of attorney in writing does not revoke or terminate the agency as to the [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT,] agent [,] or other person who, without actual knowledge of the death [, DISABILITY,] or incapacity [INCOMPETENCE] of the principal, acts in good faith under the power of attorney [OR AGENCY]. Action so taken, unless otherwise invalid or unenforceable, binds the principal and the heirs, devisees, and personal representatives of the principal.

(b) An affidavit executed by the [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT OR] agent stating that the [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT OR] agent did not have, at the time of doing an act under the power of attorney, actual knowledge of the revocation or termination of the power of attorney by death [, DISABILITY] or incapacity [INCOMPETENCE], is, in the absence of fraud, conclusive proof of the nonrevocation or nontermination of the

power **of attorney** at that time. If the exercise of the power **of attorney** requires execution and delivery of an instrument that is recordable, the affidavit when authenticated for record is likewise recordable.

(c) A special power of attorney created before September 4, 1988, shall be construed to grant the **agent** [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT] the powers set out in that special power of attorney.

\* **Sec. 25.** AS 13.26 is amended by adding a new section to read:

**Sec. 13.26.357. Execution of power of attorney.** A power of attorney executed in this state is valid if the principal

(1) signs the power of attorney or, in the principal's conscious presence, directs another individual to sign the principal's name on the power of attorney; and

(2) acknowledges the signature before a notary public or other individual authorized by law to take acknowledgments.

\* **Sec. 26.** AS 13.26.358(a) is amended to read:

(a) A public home care provider may not accept a designation as [ATTORNEY-IN-FACT OR] agent by general or special power of attorney for an individual to whom the provider furnishes services unless the designation is held jointly with another individual who is not a public home care provider.

\* **Sec. 27.** AS 13.26 is amended by adding a new section to article 5 to read:

**Sec. 13.26.359. Definitions.** In AS 13.26.326 - 13.26.359,

(1) "benefits from government programs or civil or military service" means a benefit, a program, or assistance provided under a statute or regulation, including Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid; and

(2) "good faith" means honesty in fact;

(3) "incapacity" means inability of an individual to manage property or business affairs because the individual

(A) has an impairment in the ability to receive and evaluate information or make or communicate decisions even with the use of technological assistance; or

(B) is

(i) missing;

(ii) detained, including incarcerated in a penal system; or

(iii) outside the United States and unable to return; and

(4) "retirement plan" means a plan or account created by an employer, the principal, or another individual to provide retirement benefits or deferred compensation of which the principal is a participant, beneficiary, or owner, including a plan or account under the following sections of 26 U.S.C. (Internal Revenue Code):

(A) an individual retirement account under 26 U.S.C. 408 (Internal Revenue Code), as amended;

(B) a Roth IRA under 26 U.S.C. 408A (Internal Revenue Code), as amended;

(C) an individual retirement account under 26 U.S.C. 408(q) (Internal Revenue Code), as amended;

(D) an annuity or custodial account under 26 U.S.C. 403(b) (Internal Revenue Code), as amended;

(E) a pension, profit-sharing, stock bonus, or other retirement plan qualified under 26 U.S.C. 401(a) (Internal Revenue Code), as amended;

(F) a plan under 26 U.S.C. 457(b) (Internal Revenue Code), as amended; and

(G) a nonqualified deferred compensation plan under 26 U.S.C. 409A (Internal Revenue Code), as amended.

\* **Sec. 28.** AS 13 is amended by adding a new chapter to read:

**Chapter 28. Recognition of Substitute Decision-Making Documents.**

**Sec. 13.28.010. Validity of substitute decision-making document.** (a) Except as provided in AS 13.26.331, a substitute decision-making document for property executed outside this state is valid in this state if, when the document was executed, the execution complied with the law of the jurisdiction indicated in the document or, if jurisdiction is not indicated, the law of the jurisdiction in which the document was executed.

(b) Except as provided in AS 13.52.010 and 13.52.247, a substitute decision-making document for health care or personal care executed outside this state is valid in this state if, when the document was executed, the execution complied with

(1) the law of the jurisdiction indicated in the document or, if jurisdiction is not indicated, the law of the jurisdiction in which the document was executed; or

(2) the laws of this state other than this chapter.

(c) Except as otherwise provided by a law of this state other than this chapter, a photocopy or electronically transmitted copy of an original substitute decision-making document has the same effect as the original.

**Sec. 13.28.020. Meaning and effect of substitute decision-making document.** The meaning and effect of a substitute decision-making document and the authority of the decision maker are determined by the law of the jurisdiction indicated in the substitute decision-making document or, if jurisdiction is not indicated, the law of the jurisdiction in which the substitute decision-making document was executed.

**Sec. 13.28.030. Reliance on substitute decision-making document.** (a) Except as otherwise provided in AS 13.26.328, a person that in good faith accepts a substitute decision-making document without actual knowledge that the document is void, invalid, or terminated, or that the purported decision maker's authority is void, invalid, or terminated, may, without inquiry, assume that the document is genuine, valid, and still in effect and that the decision maker's authority is genuine, valid, and still in effect.

(b) A person that is asked to accept a substitute decision-making document may request and may, without further investigation, rely on

(1) the decision maker's assertion of a fact concerning the individual for whom a decision will be made, the decision maker, or the document;

(2) a translation of the document if the document contains, in whole or in part, a language other than English; and

(3) an opinion of counsel regarding any matter of law concerning the document if the person requesting the opinion provides in a record the reason for the request.

**Sec. 13.28.040. Obligation to accept substitute decision-making document.** (a) Except as otherwise provided in (b) of this section or by a law of this state other than this chapter, a person shall, within a reasonable time, accept a substitute decision-

1 making document that purportedly meets the validity requirements of AS 13.28.010  
2 and may not require an additional or different form of document for authority granted  
3 in the document presented.

4 (b) A person is not required to accept a substitute decision-making document if

5 (1) the person otherwise would not be required in the same  
6 circumstances to act if requested by the individual who executed the document;

7 (2) the person has actual knowledge of the termination of the decision  
8 maker's authority or the document;

9 (3) the person's request under AS 13.28.030(b) for the decision maker's  
10 assertion of fact, a translation, or an opinion of counsel is refused;

11 (4) the person in good faith believes that the document is not valid or  
12 that the decision maker does not have the authority to request a particular transaction  
13 or action; or

14 (5) the person makes, or has actual knowledge that another person has  
15 made, a report to the office of the Department of Health and Social Services that  
16 administers adult protective services stating a belief that the individual for whom a  
17 decision will be made may be subject to abuse, neglect, exploitation, or abandonment  
18 by the decision maker or a person acting for or with the decision maker.

19 (c) A person that, in violation of this section, refuses to accept a substitute  
20 decision-making document is subject to

21 (1) a court order mandating acceptance of the document; and

22 (2) liability as provided by the court rules of this state for attorney fees  
23 and costs incurred in an action or proceeding that mandates acceptance of the  
24 document.

25 **Sec. 13.28.050. Remedies under other law.** The remedies under this chapter  
26 are not exclusive and do not abrogate any right or remedy under a law of this state  
27 other than this chapter.

28 **Sec. 13.28.060. Uniformity of application and construction.** In applying and  
29 construing this chapter, consideration shall be given to the need to promote uniformity  
30 of the law with respect to its subject matter among the states that enact it.

31 **Sec. 13.28.070. Relation to Electronic Signatures in Global and National**

**Commerce Act.** This chapter modifies, limits, or supersedes 15 U.S.C. 7001 - 7031 (Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act), but does not modify, limit, or supersede 15 U.S.C. 7001(c), or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in 15 U.S.C. 7003(b).

**Sec. 13.28.090. Definitions.** In this chapter,

(1) "decision maker" means a person authorized to act for an individual under a substitute decision-making document or to whom a decision maker's authority is delegated, whether denominated a decision maker, agent, attorney-in-fact, proxy, representative, original decision maker, co-decision maker, successor decision maker, or otherwise;

(2) "good faith" means honesty in fact;

(3) "health care" means a service or procedure to maintain, diagnose, treat, or otherwise affect an individual's physical or mental condition;

(4) "person" means an individual, estate, business or nonprofit entity, public corporation, government or governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, or other legal entity;

(5) "personal care" means an arrangement or a service to provide an individual with shelter, food, clothing, transportation, education, recreation, social contact, or assistance with the activities of daily living;

(6) "property" means anything that may be subject to ownership, whether real or personal or legal or equitable, or any interest or right in the thing;

(7) "record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form;

(8) "substitute decision-making document" means a record created by an individual to authorize a decision maker to act for the individual with respect to property, health care, or personal care.

**Sec. 13.28.095. Short title.** This chapter may be cited as the Uniform Recognition of Substitute Decision-Making Documents Act.

\* **Sec. 29.** AS 13.26.338(a), 13.26.344(n), and 13.26.353(c) are repealed.

\* **Sec. 30.** The uncodified law of the State of Alaska is amended by adding a new section to



1 read:

2 APPLICABILITY. (a) This Act

3 (1) applies to a power of attorney or substitute decision-making document  
4 created on or after the effective date of this Act;

5 (2) applies to a judicial proceeding commenced on or after the effective date of  
6 this Act concerning a power of attorney or substitute decision-making document created on or  
7 after the effective date of this Act; and

8 (3) does not apply to an act done before the effective date of this Act.

9 (b) In this section, "substitute decision-making document" has the meaning given in  
10 AS 13.28.090, enacted by sec. 28 of this Act.

11 \* **Sec. 31.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2016.